

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Tetsuo NAGANO et al.

Confirmation No.: 3254

Appl. No. : 10/598,371
(National Phase of PCT/JP2005/03569)

Examiner: Not yet assigned

I. A. Filed : March 3, 2005

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

For : FLUORESCENT PROBE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby direct the Examiner's attention to the following documents cited in the International Search Report for International Application PCT/JP2005/003569, of which the above-referenced application is a National Stage:

- (1) JP 2003-277385 A, October 2, 2003, accompanied by an English language abstract thereof;
- (2) WO 99/01447 A1, January 14, 1999;
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,201,134 B1 (NAGANO et al.), March 13, 2001; Applicants note that this document is a family member of document (2);

Applicants further direct the Examiner's attention to the following documents cited and discussed in the present application:

- (4) U.S. Patent No. 5,405,975 (KUHN et al.), April 11, 1995; Applicants note that this document is cited and discussed in the present application, beginning at page 1 paragraph [0002];
- (5) JP 10-226688 A, August 25, 1998; Applicants note that this document is cited and discussed in the present application, beginning at page 1 paragraph [0002];
- (6) U.S. Patent No. 5,874,590 (NAGANO et al.), February 23, 1999; Applicants note that this document is a family member of document (5);
- (7) WO 01/64664 A1, September 7, 2001; Applicants note that this document is cited and discussed in the present application, beginning at page 1 paragraph [0002];
- (8) U.S. Patent No. 7,087,766 B2, August 8, 2006; Applicants note that this document is a family member of document (7);
- (9) WO 2004/005917 A1, January 15, 2004; Applicants note that this document is cited and discussed in the present application, beginning at page 2, paragraph [0005] (identified in the specification by its application no. PCT/JP2003/008585);
- (10) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2006/0030054 A1 (NAGANO et al.), February 9, 2006; Applicants note that this document is a family member of document (9);

- (11) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2008/0014602 A1 (NAGANO et al.), January 17, 2008; Applicants note that this document is a family member of document JP 2003-314041, which is cited and discussed in the present application, beginning at page 2, paragraph [0005]; Applicants note that a full copy of JP 2003-314041 was not available;
- (12) WO 99/51586 A1, October 14, 1999; Applicants note that this document is cited and discussed in the present application, beginning at page 9, paragraph [0019];
- (13) U.S. Patent No. 6,525,088 B1 (NAGANO et al.), February 25, 2003; Applicants note that this document is a family member of document (12);
- (14) JP 2000-239272 A, September 5, 2000, accompanied by an English language abstract thereof; Applicants note that this document is cited and discussed in the present application, beginning at page 9, paragraph [0019];
- (15) WO 01/62755 A1, August 30, 2001; Applicants note that this document is cited and discussed in the present application, beginning at page 9, paragraph [0019]; and
- (16) U.S. Patent No. 6,903,226 B2 (NAGANO et al.), June 7, 2005; Applicants note that this document is a family member of document (15).

Applicants further direct the Examiner's attention to the following co-pending U.S. patent applications:

- (17) Application No. 10/519,682 to Tetsuo NAGANO et al., filed August 15, 2005 and entitled "Fluorescent Probe";
- (18) Application No. 10/767,334 to Kensuke KOMATSU et al., filed January 30, 2004 and entitled "Fluorescent Probe for Zinc"; and
- (19) Application No. 10/570,355 to Tetsuo NAGANO et al., filed March 26, 2007 and entitled "Fluorescent Probe."

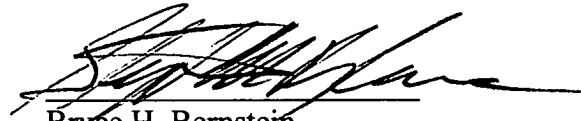
Copies of the above-listed documents (with the exception of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications), the International Search Report for International Application PCT/JP2005/003569 (in English) and the International Preliminary Report on Patentability thereof are enclosed together with a completed copy of the Form PTO-1449 listing these documents. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 with the next communication.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii) and to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(iii) if a U.S. patent application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and patent applications cited above are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not yet issued in the instant application, and thus, no fee is necessary to ensure consideration of this statement. However, if an Office Action has issued and is crossing in the mail with this statement, the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0089 any fee necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted materials.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Tetsuo NAGANO et al.



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